

## Forensic Monitoring Form

### Categories 5 and 6

**This form and associated monitoring must be completed soon after  
two significant rain (> 2 inches) and/or snow-melt events  
and submitted annually to Water Board by July 15**

*Please type or print clearly in ink*

**Forensic monitoring:** is conducted soon after significant rain or snow-melt events and consists of visual monitoring of:

- surface waters      ▪ watercourse crossings      ▪ landings      ▪ burned areas
- unstable areas      ▪ roads      ▪ waterbody buffer zones      ▪ skid trails

The purpose of this monitoring is to:

- (1) detect elevated turbidity levels in surface waters, and locate sources of sediment discharges;
- (2) determine the condition of installed management measures,
- (3) detect failure to implement necessary management measures,
- (4) detect water quality impacts caused by failed management measures,
- (5) detect water quality impacts related to legacy timber activities and general timber harvest and vegetation management activities; and
- (6) identify sources of potential sediment delivery in a timely manner so that corrective action may be taken to avoid sediment discharges to water bodies.

This monitoring must be conducted at least twice each year and reported on July 15 for the duration of timber harvest and vegetation management activities and until a Notice of Termination of Timber Waiver Coverage is issued by Water Board staff. This form or report containing equivalent information must be completed and signed.

Forensic monitoring is required for activities that proceed under Category 5 or 6 until a Notice of Termination of Timber Waiver Coverage is issued by Water Board staff.

**Activity Name:**

**WDID Number:**

☐ Yes    ☐ No    Have timber harvest and vegetation management activities commenced?

If **yes**, please complete this form and associated monitoring.

If **no**, when are operations anticipated to begin (if known)? \_\_\_\_\_

If operations have not commenced by May 1, you are not required to complete the remainder of this form, please sign the landowner signature box at the bottom of page 8 and submit to the Water Board by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Inspection #1

Within 36 hours of a significant rain (>2 inches in 24 hours) or snow-melt event inspect accessible areas and waterbodies immediately downstream of operations and complete the following:

1. **Inspector's name and title:**

2. **Date of inspection:**

3. **Weather Observations and Precipitation Levels:**

(Some of this information may be obtained at the following webpage: <http://water.weather.gov/>)

Stream Stage (select one):	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Flooding
Precipitation (select one):	<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Drizzle	<input type="checkbox"/> Rain	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow	
Date of and approximate amount of last precipitation:	(This information may be obtained at the following webpage: <a href="http://water.weather.gov/">http://water.weather.gov/</a> )				
Accumulated precipitation this season:	_____ inches of		<input type="checkbox"/> Rain	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow	
(This information may be obtained at the following webpage: <a href="http://water.weather.gov/">http://water.weather.gov/</a> )					
Additional notes on weather and precipitation:					

**Inspect all the following areas and infrastructure within the activity area if accessible.**

Use the space following each area listed below to indicate whether such areas exist within the activity area, if they were inspected, if they were not accessible for inspection, and if evidence of erosion or delivery to a waterbody are observed.

Look for signs of erosion and transport of sediment to a waterbody. These signs may include:

- landsliding
- erosion voids
- tension cracking or settling of road fill or sidecast
- rilling or gullying of road surfaces, road fills, landings, cutbanks, etc.
- increased levels of sediment/turbidity in waterbodies immediately downstream of operations

If evidence of sediment erosion and delivery to a waterbody are observed:

- ☐ Identify the waterbody and describe specific locations within or adjacent to the waterbody.
- ☐ Photograph the source of sediment and point of delivery to the waterbody and record photo monitoring using the Photo-Point Monitoring Form (Attachment L).
- ☐ Describe what and when corrective measures will be taken to stop sediment delivery and protect water quality.
- ☐ Report discharges by telephone (530) 542-5400 no later than 24 hours after detection.

If increased levels of sediment/turbidity are observed in neighboring waterbodies:

- ☐ Describe where and in which waterbody.

- ☐ Explain if this turbidity is a result of sediment discharges from within the activity area. Is the sediment coming from a hillslope feature such as a stream crossing or unstable area? Cause-and-effect can be determined if the water becomes noticeably muddy below a hillslope feature.
- ☐ Describe what and when corrective measures will be taken to stop sediment delivery and protect water quality.

If any erosion or failed management measures cause sediment delivery to a waterbody, then photo-point monitoring is required using the Photo-Point Monitoring Form (Attachment L).

**Forensic monitoring requirements are waived if significant environmental impacts would result from road system use to access the activity area, or if worker safety would be compromised.** If these areas are not accessible for monitoring, please indicate why. Acceptable reasons may include:

- ☐ Significant environmental impacts would result from road system use to access the activity area or waterbodies immediately downstream of operations.
- ☐ Worker safety would be compromised.

**4. Areas where timber harvest and vegetation management activities have been conducted within or near unstable areas.**

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

**5. Constructed or re-constructed watercourse crossings.**

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

**6. Waterbody Buffer Zones (WBBZs) or Stream Environment Zones (SEZs) where ground based equipment operations (e.g., skid trail crossings) or use of prescribed fire have occurred .**

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

7. Road construction or reconstruction within 150 feet of a Class I, II, or IV (with domestic use) watercourse.

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

8. Landing construction or reconstruction within WBBZs or SEZs.

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

9. Areas classified as high or extreme erosion hazard rating where ground-based equipment has been operated and there is potential for water quality impacts.

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

10. Areas of in-lieu practices that have the potential to impact water quality.

☐ none exist

(attach additional pages if necessary)

11. For Category 5 Projects only: If the enrollee has suspended forensic monitoring during an interim period per Timber Waiver Category 5 Condition #10 and the directions at the bottom of the Timber Waiver Category 5 Application Form, please note these periods of inactivity and include an explanation for the temporary suspension in the box below.

(attach additional pages if necessary)

I, the Landowner, agent thereof, or Land Manager, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that all information contained in this monitoring report is true, accurately represents site conditions, and is complete. I also certify that all timber harvest and vegetation management activities conducted have been in conformance with all the general conditions of the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges Resulting from Timber Harvest and Vegetation Management Activities in the Lahontan Region (Timber Waiver), Resolution R6T-2014-00XX, and all eligibility criteria and conditions for Category 5 or 6 of the Timber Waiver. If any deviation from the approved plan, and/or the Timber Waiver eligibility criteria and conditions has been identified I have disclosed such deviations in this form along with corrective actions that will be taken to resolve the problem.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax/E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Invitation for feedback:** Water Board staff respectfully request any constructive feedback regarding the monitoring program with regard to your timber harvest and vegetation management activities. Completing this section is not a requirement. Water Board staff may use your comments and suggestions to improve this program for future activities. Comments may include:

- perceived effectiveness of the program in protecting water quality
- recommendations on how to make the monitoring program more efficient, reliable, or effective
- impressions of recommendations made by Water Board staff regarding your activities (e.g., do they appear to be effective, is there a practice or a performance standard that would have been more cost-effective at protecting water quality?)

## Inspection #2

Within 36 hours of a significant rain (>2 inches in 24 hours) or snow-melt event inspect accessible areas and waterbodies immediately downstream of operations and complete the following:

1. **Inspector's name and title:**

2. **Date of inspection:**

3. **Weather Observations and Precipitation Levels:**

(Some of this information may be obtained at the following webpage: <http://water.weather.gov/>)

Stream Stage (select one):	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Flooding
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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax/E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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